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WHITBY RURAL DISTRICT

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

M. DALE WOOD, M.D.

FOR THE YEAR

1941

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

WHITBY RURAL DISTRICT

for the year 1941

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit my Report for the year 1941, as I am able to record that very good health has been maintained through the district; the incidence of the more serious forms of infectious disease has been so small as to establish the lowest record for very many years.

The Government scheme for Immunisation against Diphtheria for children up to the age of 15 years has made good progress, especially among those of school age, though the response of those under 5 years has very seriously lagged behind; it cannot be too strongly impressed how important it is (especially for those below 5 years) to be given this protection. Since the period under review closed there has still been a steady increase in the number of those done, and it is hoped that all will avail themselves of this simple method of gaining protection against a very serious disease.

My Report this year is again in a shortened form according to the directions of the Minister of Health.

Your obedient servant,

M. DALE WOOD.

Grape Lane,
Whitby,
Yorks.

July, 1942.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Name.	Qualifications	Office held	Whole or part time	Other Public Offices held
M. DALE WOOD	M.D., B.S.	Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital.	Whole	Medical Officer of Health Whitby Urban District Council. School Medical Inspector North Riding Yorks. County Council.
F. LAWSON	Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.	Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor.	Whole	
W. B. LAWSON	Cert.R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor.	Whole	
Mrs. M. O. GOAD	S.R.N. General & Fever, F.B.C.N.	Matron Isolation Hospital	Whole	

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Rateable Value	£50,515
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£195

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR, 1941.

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births	91	76	167
(Legitimate)	88	71	159
(Illegitimate)	3	5	8
Still Births	4	5	9
(Legitimate)	4	4	8
(Illegitimate)	0	1	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..	51.1		
Deaths	106	79	185
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)	1		
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..	5.6		

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	0	0	0
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	41.9		
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births ..	44.02		
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births ..	0		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0		

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1941.

According to Registrar-General's Classification:—

	Males.	Females.	T'tl.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0	0	0
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	0	1
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria	0	0	0
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2	3
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	0	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	0	0	0
9. Influenza	2	2	4
10. Measles	0	0	0
11. Ac: Polio-myelitis & Polio-enceph:	0	0	0
12. Acute Infantile Encephalitis	0	0	0
13. Cancer of Mouth and Oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)	1	1	2
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
15. Cancer of Breast	0	2	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	6	8	14
17. Diabetes	3	1	4
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	16	10	26
19. Heart Disease	25	29	54
20. Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	3
21. Bronchitis	5	4	9
22. Pneumonia	3	0	3
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1	4
24. Ulcer: of Stomach or Duodenum...	2	1	3
25. Diarrhœa under 2 years	0	0	0
26. Appendicitis	1	0	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	4	1	5
28. Nephritis	4	2	6
29. Puerperal & Post-abortion. Sepsis	0	1	1
30. Other Maternal Causes	0	0	0
31. Premature Birth	2	1	3
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases...	3	1	4
33. Suicide	1	0	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	3	0	3
35. Other Violent Causes	4	3	7
36. All Other Causes	7	6	13
All Causes	106	79	185

DEATHS AT SPECIFIED AGES.

Age in Years.	1937.		1938.		1939.		1940.		1941.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	4	2	2	3	7	1	3	0	5	3
1 to 9 ...	5	2	3	2	1	2	5	0	4	1
10 to 19 ...	1	0	0	1	3	1	2	2	1	1
20 to 29 ...	3	1	4	0	2	1	3	0	2	3
30 to 39 ...	4	2	6	2	0	1	7	6	5	0
40 to 49 ...	5	1	4	4	3	3	4	0	2	3
50 to 59 ...	15	16	6	10	10	5	8	6	12	6
60 to 69 ...	11	22	17	15	15	14	21	14	21	14
70 to 79 ...	26	28	24	23	21	33	21	34	32	22
80 and over	12	19	6	15	19	15	20	25	22	26
All ages ...	86	93	72	75	84	76	94	87	106	79
Total ...	179		147		160		181		185	

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**Laboratory Facilities.**

At the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough.

Ambulance Facilities.

An Ambulance is provided by the British Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association for Non-Infectious and Accident Cases at Whitby, and by it patients can be removed from all parts of the Rural Area.

For Infectious Cases, a Motor Ambulance is provided by the Joint Isolation Hospital Committee.

Nursing in the Home.

There are Nursing Associations at—

- (1) Danby, Castleton and Commondale.
- (2) Lythe, Sandsend, Ugthorpe and Dunsley.
- (3) Glaisdale and Lealholm.
- (4) Goathland, Grosmont and Egton.
- (5) Robin Hood's Bay.

The County Council provides a Midwife, who also acts as Health Visitor and School Nurse at—

- (1) Hinderwell and Staithes.
- (2) Sleights, Aislaby, Hawsker and Robin Hood's Bay.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

No change since last report.

Hospitals—Public and Voluntary:

The War Memorial Cottage Hospital, Whitby.
The Joint Isolation Hospital.

WHITBY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1941.

Patients.	Urban.	Rural.	Outside District.	T'tl.
Remaining Dec. 31st, 1940:—				
Scarlet Fever	2	0	0	2
Diphtheria	1	0	0	1
Admitted, 1941:—				
Scarlet Fever	5	4	0	9
Diphtheria	2	1	0	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	2	1	5
Measles	1	1	(2)	4
Chicken Pox	0	0	(1)	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	1
Observation	1	0	(16)	17
Discharged cured, 1941:—				
Scarlet Fever	7	3	0	10
Diphtheria	3	0	0	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	2	0	3
Measles	1	1	(2)	4
Chicken Pox	0	0	(1)	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	1
Observation	1	0	(16)	17
Died during 1941:—				
Diphtheria	0	1	0	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	0	0	1
Remaining Dec. 31st, 1941:—				
Scarlet Fever	0	1	0	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0	0	1	1
Average stay of Patients in Days				
36	32.63	12.74	25.2	
Daily average of occupied beds ...				
1.34	.72	.66	2.8	

The daily average of occupied beds was in:—

1941.	1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.
2.8	8.23	10.3	24.1	5.8

SUMMARY OF "PATIENT-DAYS" DURING 1941.

Month	Urban.	Rural.	Outside District.	Total.
January	57	0	(11)	68
February	26	0	(22)	48
March	7	0	(18)	25
April	12	36	(21)	69
May	20	46	0	66
June	3	15	0	18
July	12	60	(2)	74
August	73	16	(17)	106
September	47	0	(17)	64
October	85	34	(65)	184
November	115	23	(53) 11	202
December	31	31	(16) 31	109
	488	261	(242) 42	1033

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The undertakings owned by the Council have kept up a reasonable supply, the works are in good condition, no extensions have been carried out, but repairs have been done where necessary.

As far as privately-owned supplies are concerned, there has been no improvement in those previously reported upon.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

At Fylingdales, Sleights, Goathland, and Hinderwell the sewerage systems are working satisfactorily; at one place in Staithes occasional flooding has been caused by storm-water, but this is receiving attention.

At Iburndale a new branch sewer some 43 yards long was laid, as the old sewer was found to be badly jointed and caused frequent stoppages.

At Sandsend, special watch has to be kept at the outfall to prevent accumulation of shifting sand.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Conversion to Water Closets 9

Under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council continues to make an allowance towards the cost of conversion, where the owner of private property proposes the replacement of a closet of other type to water carriage system.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse collection is carried out by the Council's Motor Vehicles, the material is dealt with at tips at Eskdaleside and Mickleby, as well as at the destructor works of the Whitby Urban Council, with which Authority an arrangement is in force.

SALVAGE.

Material is sorted at the works and tips. Sales of waste paper by the Women's Voluntary Service realised £105 18s.

The sales of old iron, tins, etc., realised £157 5s. 10d., to which should be added the material salved out of the Rural Collection at the Whitby U.D.C. works, as well as that at Eskdaleside, which is disposed of by the owner of that tip. These latter two sources comprise about one-third of the total collection.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

No steps have been taken to remove the various properties condemned under Demolition or Clearance Order, some of these are becoming so derelict that they threaten to tumble down.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Registered Cow-Keepers and Dairymen	618
Number of Inspections	40
Number of Cowsheds Altered and Re-modelled	4

Meat and Other Foods.

All Slaughtering in this district is done at Egton under the Government Centralisation Scheme, and allocation to butchers is made from there.

Number of Inspections Made	58
Carcases, etc., Condemned	595 stones

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The incidence of Infectious Disease has been very light, with the exception of 91 cases of Measles and 39 of Whooping Cough.

The Immunisation against Diphtheria has met with a good response:

TOTAL NUMBER IMMUNISED DURING 1941.

		Aged 5 years		
Children under 5 years.		but under 15 years.		Total.
290	...	1148	...	1438
Estimated percentage of child population who have been immunised in this age group:		Estimated percentage of child population who have been immunised in this age group:		
48 per cent.		86 per cent.		

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1941.

(Civilian Cases Only)

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	4	4	0
Diphtheria	1	1	0
Pneumonia	4	0	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	2	1
Measles	91	1	0
Whooping Cough	39	0	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0

ANALYSIS OF AGE GROUPS.

Age Period.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.
Under 1 year ...	0	0	0	0	3	2	0
1—	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
2—	0	1	0	0	6	3	0
3—	0	0	0	0	7	6	0
4—	0	0	0	0	6	2	0
5—	2	0	1	0	41	22	0
10—	1	0	0	0	17	4	0
15—	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
20—	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
35—	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45—	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
65 and over	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Total ...	4	1	4	2	91	39	1

CANCER.**NUMBER OF DEATHS.**

1941.	1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.
25	28	27	22	29

TUBERCULOSIS, 1941.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 year ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 15 years...	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
15 to 25 years...	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
25 to 35 years...	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
35 to 45 years...	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 to 55 years...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 to 65 years...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and over	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
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	2	7	1	1	1	2	1	0
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Five Years:

1937	1	1	4	6	3	1	1	1
1938	4	4	1	3	3	4	0	2
1939	5	4	2	1	1	1	1	1
1940	2	1	5	1	2	3	2	0
1941	2	7	1	1	1	2	1	0

